

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



April 2017

We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

Waterfront Project Phase 3 Update

For more than a decade, the City has worked on an important project to protect its historic downtown from Skagit River floods and to open the way for downtown revitalization. This \$30 million project has been funded by numerous grants and local dollars and constructed in three phases in order to make it affordable. The project extends along the east bank of the Skagit River for more than 1½ miles with the upstream half made up of concrete flood walls, the Riverwalk, Riverwalk Park and theme lighting. The downstream portion of the project is an earthen levee that extends along the river bank and around the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant.



Work to complete construction of the last phase of the City's downtown flood protection project is in full swing. Interwest Construction, Inc. of Burlington is the City's contractor performing the work shown in the photo, in which a large vibratory machine is being used to drive steel sheet piling elements of the wall system that will protect the downtown from Skagit River floods. It is very exciting to report that construction of this excellent project will be complete by the end of this year.

The Future of Downtown - We Want to Hear from You!

Now that the City's downtown flood wall/levee is nearly complete, we are turning our attention to the next steps in facilitating development downtown. As mentioned in the March newsletter, the City has hired Collins Woerman, an award winning firm with extensive expertise in sustainable architecture, planning, and design to assist the City in identifying catalyst projects to expedite the envisioned development of our historic downtown.



Rendering of the waterfront in downtown from the 2008 Master Plan showing what this area could look like in the future

On March 23, Collins Woerman and the City facilitated some public meetings to provide the community with information on Public-Private partnerships and to discuss development opportunities within our downtown area.

In addition to the feedback received during those meetings, we are now seeking your comments and opinions - we want to know how you'd like to see Downtown Mount Vernon develop. Your thoughts

and ideas will help guide the decision making process as development alternatives for downtown are considered. Please take our quick online survey at www.mountvernonwa.gov, and help us spread the word!

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Saturday, April 22, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Mount Vernon Police Department
1805 Continental Place

Friday, April 28, 10:00 - 11:00 am
Vaux Retreat Center
3011 East Fir Street



Mayor & Council tour Francis Place - a permanent supportive housing project in Bellingham

Skagit Valley Tulip Festival

April 1-30
www.tulipfestival.org

*Your patience and kindness
 related to traffic is appreciated
 during this time!*

Library Spring Book Sale

Friday, April 21, 3-6pm
 Saturday, April 22, 10am-4pm
 Fire Station 1, 901 S. 2nd Street

Come support the Friends of the Mount
 Vernon Library at their
 annual spring book sale.

Downtown Mount Vernon Tulip Festival Street Fair

April 21-23
 S. 1st Street
 Fri & Sat 10am-6pm
 Sun 10am-5pm

33rd Annual Tulip Festival Street Fair,
 presented by the Mount Vernon
 Downtown Association. Hundreds of
 juried arts and crafts vendors including
 painting and fine art, photography,
 jewelry, clothing, gourmet food stuffs,
 unique gifts, delicious food court
 offerings, live entertainment and fun for
 the whole family.

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene Town Hall

April 21, 6pm
 Mount Vernon High School
 314 N. 9th Street

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene will be
 in Mount Vernon to hear your thoughts
 and concerns as part of a series of
 Town Halls throughout the 1st District.

Those planning to attend are
 encouraged, but not required, to RSVP
 at: <https://delbene.house.gov/townhalls>

Mayor Jill Boudreau
 910 Cleveland Avenue
 P.O. Box 809
 Mount Vernon, WA 98273
 360.336.6211
www.mountvernonwa.gov



Donations for Homeless Outreach Coordinator Program

The City is now accepting donations to be
 used by our new Outreach Coordinator, Erin
 Von Fempe, in her work with the homeless
 population.

Erin is directly engaged with homeless
 individuals on the streets of Mount Vernon
 and helps connect them with needed
 services. When she begins talking with
 people, it is much easier to build rapport
 and then help people engage in services if
 she has some basic items on hand. This is
 where our community can help!

If you would like to donate any of the items
 listed below, please drop them off at the
 Police Department (1805 Continental Place)
 or City Hall Finance Department (910
 Cleveland Avenue) anytime Monday through Friday, 8am—5pm.

ITEMS NEEDED

- Men's Underwear (M, L)
- Women's Underwear (S, M, L)
- Clothing
- Socks
- Shoes
- Reading Glasses
- Heavy Duty Trash Bags
- Water
- Chapstick
- Vaseline
- Toothbrushes
- Bicycle Repair Kits

Division Street Water Tank Project

The Public Utility District of Skagit County's concrete water tank project at the
 corner of Division and Digby Streets in Mount Vernon is progressing; soon the
 walls will begin to form. The District removed the existing, undersized 1-million-
 gallon tank last year and is now in the process of replacing it with a new 6-million-
 gallon concrete reservoir and booster pump station.

The increased capacity of the new tank will meet the present and future needs of
 Mount Vernon's growing population by providing enough room to store the state-
 required two days worth of water for all customers within its service area. There
 are currently 10,409 District customers in Mount Vernon. These improvements will
 act as one of the primary sources of water for Mount Vernon and areas south.

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$10 million and is funded through the
 Washington State Public Works Trust Fund and the Drinking Water State
 Revolving Fund Loan.

Work is expected to be completed by February 2018. For questions or further
 information, please contact Mark Handzlik, P.E., Engineering Manager at (360)
 424-7104.

